

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SWF-02 SPM-01 AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00

EB-11 IO-14 DRC-01 /146 W
----- 050848

R 191611Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3792

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 2392

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, CG, CD

SUBJ: DROUGHT IN CHAD

REFS: A. YAOUNDE 2329 (NOTAL)

B. STATE 151361 (NOTAL)

1. IN MEETING WITH FONMIN EFON ON OTHER SUBJECTS MORNING JULY 19, I MENTIONED DISQUIETING PROBLEM WE AND OTHER DONORS FACING IN HELPING CHAD GOVERNMENT COPE WITH FOOD NEEDS IN DISASTER AREAS OF COUNTRY. CITING ARTICLE IN TODAY'S ACAP QUOTING KENYAN POPULATION EXPERT, DR. YUSAF ERAJ THAT "THOUSANDS ARE STILL DYING WHILE SUPER POWERS ACCUSE EACH OTHER AND MAKE SYMPATHETIC NOISES" I ASKED HIS PERSONAL VIEWS ON HOW PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE MIGHT BE PERSUADED ACCORD NECESSARY PRIORITY TO DISTRIBUTION PROBLEM.

2. EFON PREFACED HIS COMMENTS BY A REFERENCE TO INTERNAL FACTORS INHIBITING A MORE CONSPICUOUS INTEREST AND RESPONSE OF
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AFRICAN NEIGHBORS TO PROBLEMS OF SAHEL COUNTRIES. A NUMBER OF

NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES INCLUDING CAMEROON ALSO HAVE AREAS AFFECTED IN VARYING DEGREES BY THE DROUGHT. IT IS DIFFICULT, HENCE, TO MOBILIZE LOCAL SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING FOR A RELIEF EFFORT FOR THE COUNTRY NEXT DOOR WHEN THE SITUATION AT HOME IS FAR FROM SATISFACTORY. AT RECENT OAU MEETING IN MOGADISCIO, HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO DROUGHT PROBLEM. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA AS PRESIDENT OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE SIX SAHEL STATES (CILSS) HAD MADE DETAILED REPORT ON PROBLEM AND ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BEING SUPPLIED.

3. EFON THEN MADE SUGGESTION, STRESSING THAT IT PURELY PERSONAL, THAT LAMIZANA IN HIS CILSS ROLE MIGHT FIND AN ACCEPTABLE WAY OF ENCOURAGING CHAD TO COOPERATE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH OUTSIDE AID DONORS IN MEETING INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION PROBLEM.

4. I REALIZE CHAD'S PARTICIPATION IN CILSS IS LARGELY SYMBOLIC AND THAT DEPT.AND AID/W HAVE PROBABLY ALREADY CONSIDERED FEASIBILITY OF A LAMZANA ROLE BUT I PASS ALONG FONMIN'S THOUGHTS FOR WHATEVER HELP THEY MAY BE.

MOORE

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